



Wisconsin Department of Transportation

TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT 1
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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US Highway 12 needs assessment study to be discussed at public information meeting

Fort Atkinson, WI - The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, District 1 office recently started a comprehensive study to identify the key needs for US Highway 12 from Whitewater to Madison. The needs assessment study will focus on how US Highway 12 currently serves the Fort Atkinson area and how it is expected to operate in the future. During a planned eight-month study period, a wide range of issues, including public expectations, land use issues, highway safety and traffic congestion will be analyzed.

The first public informational meeting will be held at the Fort Atkinson High School Cafeteria, 925 Lexington Blvd. in Fort Atkinson on Tuesday, June 19, 2001 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A presentation on the project will be given at 7:30 p.m. and WisDOT staff and representatives will be available after the presentation to answer questions until 9:00 p.m. The meeting will follow an open-house format with a variety of exhibits and maps available for review and representatives from WisDOT will be present answer questions throughout the evening. Participants will be able to make written or

verbal comments during the meeting. A second public informational meeting will be held in the fall of 2001.

Highway 12 ...Continued

The purpose of the needs assessment is not to propose any specific improvements for the corridor. Instead, the study will focus on understanding the needs related to the corridor and identifying which needs could influence the future of Fort Atkinson and its surrounding townships. If the study finds deficiencies, subsequent studies will look at what specific improvements could address any identified needs.

A technical report on traffic needs is scheduled for release in September 2001. This report will look at existing traffic conditions through Fort Atkinson and will analyze the current level of service and the level of service projected for the years 2010, 2020 and 2030. In addition, the results of an origin-destination study will be available at that time. WisDOT expects the Needs Assessment Report to be completed in January 2002.

WisDOT will implement a strong public involvement effort designed to help understand resident and driver concerns and perceptions regarding the roadway. District 1 will host public involvement meetings, meetings with elected officials and meetings with groups concerned about the corridor.

Persons unable to attend the public informational meeting can make their comments by contacting Scott Simmons, project manager at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, District 1, 2101 Wright St., Madison, WI 53719, (608) 246-5444.

Fort Atkinson High School, where the public informational meeting is to be held, is wheelchair-accessible. Persons with hearing impairments who wish special interpreter accommodations for the meeting should contact the DOT Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (608) 246-5385.